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NPIC R-38 63

GRID PATTERNS NEAR KOKAND, USSR

INTRODUCTION

Two grid patterns formed by ground scars have been observed on KEYHOLE photography of June 1962 in the Fergana Valley of the USSR,

16 nautical miles (nm) south of the city of Kokand. The patterns are situated 1.0 nm west of the Soch River and the village of Zartash at approximately 40-15N 71-00E.



FIGURE 1. GRID PATTERNS AND ASSOCIATED FEATURES (JUNE 1962)

- 1 -

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NPIC 'R-38/63

The area south of Kokand was covered on oblique TALENT photography of August 1957. At that time several scattered buildings and a group of about 15 barracks-type buildings were visible. KEYHOLE photography of 1962 (Figure

1) indicates that two grids have been constructed and that there has been an expansion of the original group of buildings so that it now has 21 additional small structures in the support area.

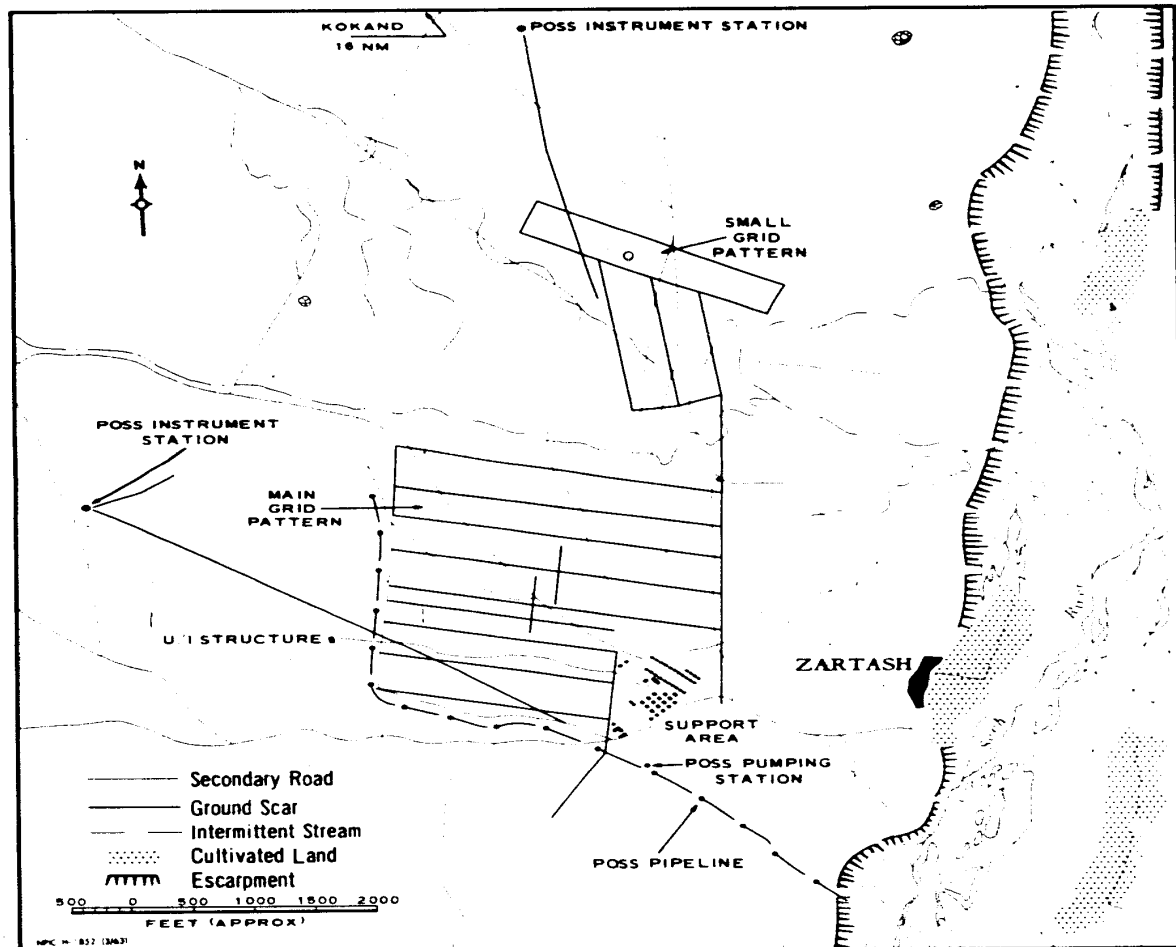


FIGURE 2. GROUND SCARS AND FACILITIES.

- 2 -


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NPIC R-38 63

25X1

MAIN GRID PATTERN

The main grid pattern is situated on a plateau which may have been leveled by earth-moving machinery. Leveling is indicated by the new drainage channels visible across the grid patterns; these appear to be the result of early stages of erosion and are in contrast to the deep ravines of the terrain surrounding the pattern. The grid pattern occupies the entire plateau, an area about 1.0 nm square, and is composed of eight east-west scars spaced approximately 650 feet (200 meters) apart. The scars appear to be  feet deep. They are laid out in straight lines parallel to one another (Figures 1 and 2).

SMALL GRID PATTERN

The small grid pattern is located 0.5 nm north of the plateau. It is composed of two west-northwest/east-southeast scars and three north/south scars. These scars are similar to those of the main grid pattern in spacing, depth, and width. However, the site of the small grid pattern has not been leveled.

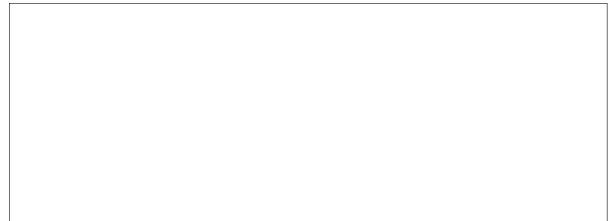
OTHER GROUND SCARS AND FEATURES

Three other ground scars are visible in the area. A single scar extends from each grid pattern to scarred areas where instrument

stations may be located, approximately 1.0 nm from the main grid pattern and 0.75 nm from the small grid pattern (Figure 2). A third scar connects the two grid patterns, crossing a deep ravine in a straight alignment.

Another scarlike trace, a possible pipeline, originates near the Soch River. From there it ascends the steep valley wall, passes over a ridge, gradually descends to the main grid pattern, then traverses the south and west margins of the pattern. A dark object or structure adjacent to the line at a point about 5,000 feet from its apparent origin near the river may be a pumping station.

Other features in the vicinity of the patterns include an unidentified structure west of the plateau with a road leading from it directly into the support area (Figure 2) and two of the numerous oil fields of the Fergana Valley, one located 2 nm north of the grid patterns and the other 2 nm south of them. The oil fields and the grid patterns have no apparent relationship.

25X1 CONCLUSION**TOP SECRET CHESS RUFF**

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REFERENCES

PHOTOGRAPHY

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MAPS AND CHARTS

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JN-237 62



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- 4 -

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